

The Bethany Messenger

Volume 2025

Issue 6

June

Greetings Dear Bethany!

This month of June marks eight months since I started ministry to/with you. Within this short period of time, the wonderful Allan Nelson has said three or four times: “the church needs to look for my replacement.” In talking to the Council about Allan’s request, many of them had heard Allan speak the same sentiment.

Out of respect to Allan, it’s time to form a team to lead us in the Search for a New Minister of Music. Please understand, Allan is not going anywhere until the Lord takes him home. Nevertheless, let’s listen to Allan’s wisdom since he understands even Allan Nelson will not live on this side of life, forever.

Requirements for this new search team include:

1. You are a member of Bethany and a regular worshipper.
2. Interviewing experience helps.
3. Willingness to do the required work to find the best possible organist/piano player.

If you have a desire to serve on this team, please speak with me.

In Revelation 21:5, God says: “See, I am making all things new.” That quote is about the end times but it’s consistent with life as God’s people on planet earth, too! I’m writing this the night before we hear the CAT results. It’s exciting how these results could indicate how the Holy Spirit wants to make things new and lead Bethany towards greater health and impact in this shared ministry. As disciples of Jesus, we don’t need to be afraid of the future and the new things God has for us. God is with us, God is for us, and therefore, we can trust

the Spirit’s leadership forward. And so, as I said on Sunday: “Faithfulness is the goal, not perfection.” The One who is Faithful is leading you, may we follow faithfully!

Gratefully yours,
Pastor Cheryl

Council Corner Notes:

Monthly news and ministry highlights from your church council.



Bethany Lutheran Church is excited to participate in our fourth Birdies for Charity event! Due to the growing hunger crisis in our communities and the need for more safe and welcoming ministries for our youth, this year Bethany will support three very worthy causes through its Birdies campaign:

- Connecticut Foodshare
- ELCA World Hunger
- Calumet Lutheran Ministries

Your donation to Bethany made through this fundraising platform between now and June 22 will receive a **15% match** from Webster Bank, making your contribution much more impactful! We hope you will consider donating to Bethany and our mission through the 2025 Birdies for Charity program. To donate please click on this link:

<https://partnerhq.com/public/events/2025-travelers-championship-birdies-for-charity/organization-partnerships/4111>

- Mark Aresco



June

Volunteers

Assisting Minister	1	8 am— n/a 9:30 am — Liz Friedmann
	8	Liz Friedmann
	15	Mike Balinskas
	22	Noelle Keegan
	29	Noelle Keegan
Altar Guild:		Angel Carlin
Greeters	1	8 am— n/a 9:30 am— Noelle Keegan, Bill Spada
	8	Norma Zashut, Bill Spada
	15	Linda Carlson, Norma Zashut
	22	Sandra Fuoco
	29	Norma Zashut, Pam Shaw
Ushers	1	Amy Calvo, Christine Trousdale
	8	Peter Alison, Amy Calvo
	15	Noelle Keegan, Peter Alison
	22	Holly Linder, Barb Hughes
	29	Holly Linder, Wendy Soneson
Coffee Hour	1	8 am— n/a 9:30 am— Norma Zashut
	8	Holly Linder
	15	Christine Trousdale
	22	Patty O'Brian
	29	Ann Naughton
Counters	TBD	

Live Stream

1	9:30 am— Dennis Gehring
8	Dennis Gehring
15	Dennis Gehring
22	Dennis Gehring
29	Dennis Gehring
1	
8	
15	Nancy Balinskas
22	
29	
1	Nancy & Mike Balinskas
8	Barbara Sunbury
15	Mike & Nancy Balinskas
22	Sandra Fuoco
29	

Slides

Altar Flowers

Volunteers for July 6, 2025

Assisting Minister:

Altar Guild: Angel Carlin

Greeters & Ushers:

Live Stream/Audio:

Slides:

Coffee Hour: Holly Linder

Altar Flowers: Sandra Fuoco

Counters: TBD





The Saints gathered on May 15 for our annual celebration of birthdays. We celebrated with pizza and root beer (supplied by Fritz Krampitz) and fancy cup cakes which Robin got for us. (THANK YOU)

Pastor Wogman led us in devotions and after the singing of the Saints song and a brief business meeting Pastor Wogman led us in a discussion of birthdays and things which influenced our lives.

Surpassingly we focused a lot on the impact of World War II on us as we grew up. Very interesting!

A GREAT DISCUSSION!

Pastor Cheryl led us in our closing prayer and a usual we spent a happy time together. There were 9 Saint's present and as always, we look for more to join us.

Our meeting dates for 2025 are listed below.

June 19, 2025	-	Picnic at Cromwell Landing
July 17, 2025	-	Boat Ride with Captain Bill
August 21, 2025	-	Speaker
September 18, 2025	-	Special Guest
October 16, 2025	-	Celebration of Reformation (Bonhoeffer Film)
November 20, 2025	-	Thanksgiving Program
December 11, 2025 <i>(One week early)</i>	-	Christmas Decorating & Party

**COME AND JOIN US FOR FUN AND FELLOWSHIP!
REMEMBER TO GIVE A SAINT A CALL!**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June 1	-	Adrien Ahrens
	-	Maura Meaney
	-	Francesco Servidone
June 2	-	Edward Courchaine
June 3	-	Pastor Cheryl Larsen Lawing
	-	Ellie Palmer
June 5	-	Jean Gibb
June 7	-	Julie Richheimer
June 8	-	Kevin Johnson
June 16	-	Greg Wiernasz
June 17	-	Amy Calvo
June 19	-	Michael Heath
June 21	-	Linda Carlson
	-	Barbara Sunbury
June 23	-	Patti Santavenere
June 28	-	Judith Coco
June 29	-	Carolyn Ekeberg

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Billy & Sara Spada, 6/2/2024
Marissa & Carl Saponare, 6/10/2006
Pr. Hugh & Debora Haffenreffer, 6/11/1983
Susan & LouMelluzzo, 6/13/1987
Karen & Derek Sullivan, 6/18/2011
Sandra & Jack Fuoco, 6/20/1959
Kathy & Joe Mroczka, 6/20/1981
Carol & Charlie Frago, 6/28/1980
Kelli & Mike Gyulay, 6/28/1998

2025 Card Ministry



Thank you to everyone that volunteered to continue this ministry for 2025. We couldn't continue this ministry without your help!



January & February — Wendy Soneson
 March— Barbara Sunbury
 April— Karen Sullivan
 May —Linda Carlson
June —Holly Linder
 July — Kelly McTeague
 August — Barb Hughes
 September — Pr. Maureen Hawksley
 October, November & December —
 Diane Rauss

Sunday, June 8th is the last day of Sunday School. To celebrate, the Sunday School students will be having an **Ice Cream Social** during Coffee Hour following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. They'd like to invite the entire congregation to join them as well! No need to RSVP, please just show up. We will have plenty of ice cream sandwiches, Dixie Cups, and novelty ice creams for everyone. Please contact Holly Linder if you have any questions (hlinder4@gmail.com) 860-378-5936).



Bethany Youth Group will hold its end of the year event on Friday, June 13. We will have a picnic and a pool party at the Richheimer's on 89 Field Road in Cromwell. Friends and parents are welcome. Hamburgers and hotdogs provided. Bring food to share.

RSVP to LouAnn Smith 860-930-0075 or Kitty Richheimer 860-830-3293 by Sunday, June 8.



From Calumet!

Check out “**Boom Chicka News**” - a brand new monthly effort — to be in the know about all kinds of information Calumet Nation will want to know!



Use this link: <https://calumet.org/resources/boomchickanews>

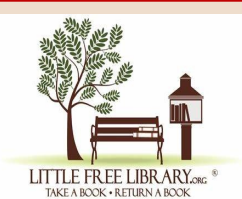
Also, to find out about the facilities, activities and everything else “Calumet”, please use the following link: <https://www.calumet.org/programs/quickglance>



Calumet Lutheran Ministries * PO Box 236, W. Ossipee, NH 03890 * 603.539.4773

The Children and Youth Committee would like to congratulate new parents. If you have someone in your family who has a baby or know of someone previously associated with Bethany who has had a baby, please speak to LouAnn Smith or let Robin in the office know by calling the office at 860-635-4618 or thru her email: bethanylutheranchurchcromwell@gmail.com. We will need the parents' names and addresses.

The **Little Free Library** located by the Preschool entrance belongs to everyone! It offers a way to share good things to read with both children and adults.



Take books. If you see something you would like to read or share with someone you know, take it! There is no need to return it to the Little Free Library.

Give books. If you have new or gently used books that you would like to donate you can either put them directly into the Little Free Library or in the marked box that is located in the coat closet. During the school year we really go through a lot of preschool-age books.



Table Talk (Bible Study) is being held at **Luther Ridge** with Pastor Cathy Rohrs of Faith Lutheran Church, Middletown. **TABLE TALK**

It begins at **10:30 a.m.** in the **1st floor community room** for conversation and a look at the lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday.

All visitors must check in at the front desk upon entering the building.

MASKS are Optional for Luther Ridge residents, staff and visitors.

Bethany has an online directory with all of our church members, addresses and phone numbers listed. We even have a small photo of individuals / families with the entries. If you would like to download this directory to your phone or computer so that you will have access to all of our members addresses and phone #'s, give Robin a call in the office (860-635-4618) or send her an email and she will send you a link to set it up. The link is only good for 48 hours.



Once you have the directory downloaded, you will be able to update your address or phone #. If you would like a picture included (or update a current picture), please send Robin a **jpeg** picture and it will be put up on the site.

Get Involved at Bethany

If you would like to help out at one or more of our church services, you can sign up online at **"SignUp Genius"** (see the links below). Simply click on the link and select what Sunday(s) you'd like to help out. Weekly, we need the following helpers:



Assisting Minister

Ushers / Greeters

Altar Guild (Monthly)

Liturgy Slide Assistants

Live-Stream Assistants

Coffee Hour Hosts

Altar Flowers

After you sign up, you'll receive an email reminder about a week before the service. You can also edit or swap dates if something comes up. If you have questions, please reach out to **Mike Balinskas** or **Robin (860-635-4618)**.



Worship Service Volunteers

Right click picture and then click "Open Hyperlink" to go directly to SignUp Genius.



Worship

Coffee Hour



Altar Flowers



Currently, we are not running food donation drives at Bethany. Instead use the link below to select from the items needed from the Amazon

Wish List and have the items delivered directly to the St. Vincent de Paul of Middletown food pantry. It's easy and you are assured you are donating items that are really needed. Use the link a list of the most needed items at the Amazing Grace Food Pantry!

<https://a.co/6uK7UPC>

PRAYERS

If you would like a hospital or home visit, or are otherwise in need of pastoral care, please call the church office at **860-635-4618**. If it is after hours, please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.



We will keep names on the prayer list for a two (2) week period. Names will automatically be removed at the end of the two (2) weeks. If you would like a person to stay on the list for another two (2) weeks, please email Robin on the Wednesday prior to the removal date at:

bethanyluthranchurchromwell@gmail.com.

As of this date we are praying for:

John, Danny, Rolin, Craig, Barbara, Amy, Diane, Sue, Carole, Glenn, Michael, Deb and Bill

Distribution of Holy Communion in Pews

We are happy to distribute Holy Communion in the pews for those who find it difficult to come to the communion rail in the chancel area. Moving forward, we will be using chalices pre-filled with gluten free bread and wine for those who are receiving in the pew. These are the same pre-filled chalices used during the pandemic and for home communion. This distribution method is less likely to result in accidental spills. As a reminder, simply notify an usher if you'd like to receive Holy Communion while seated.

Please try to sit at or near the end of a pew.



SUMMER PLANS

There will be no summer vacation for the music program at Bethany. One of our two choirs will be present each Sunday to lead us in worship. During the summer months we will also be featuring many of our talent musicians as soloists and there might even be a few trios, duets etc.

COME—BE INSPIRED AND HELP US SING

What better way to prepare yourself for the season than to join one of our musical groups and personally participate in the glory and inspiration of the music.

All are welcome (as the hymn so beautifully puts it) **COME AND JOIN US**

HYMN OF THE MONTH: HERE I AM, LORD, #574

This beautiful hymn has become a favorite here at Bethany. It was written by Daniel L. Schutte, a Jesuit priest whose ministry was on a Indian reservation in Southj Dakota.

The hymn was inspired by the words of Isaiah 6:8-when asked who shall I send the prophet replies "Send Me"

Schutte wrote both the text and the music.

The refrain is inspiring to say the least, lending itself to beautiful harmony and obligato. It is being used as our anthem on June 1.



COME AND SING IT WITH US !

Bethany Lutheran is proud to announce we are partnering with Birdies for Charity during the 2025 Travelers Championship. Due to the growing hunger crisis in our communities and the need for more safe and welcoming ministries for our youth, this year Bethany will support three very worthy causes through its Birdies campaign:

Connecticut Foodshare

ELCA World Hunger

Calumet Lutheran Ministries

This fundraising platform allows for **115% of the proceeds** to go directly to Bethany Lutheran **from now until June 22**. Here is a simple way to make an even more powerful contribution! Help grow the power of giving by donating through Birdies for Charity, where your donation will grow 15% thanks to Webster Bank's support of the Bonus Bucks Pool. Click here to make your donation go further: **BIRDIES FOR CHARITY 2025**. (use the link below)

(https://partnerhq.com/public/events/2025-travelers-championship-birdies-for-charity/organization_partnerships/4111)

Bethany Lutheran Preschool

where it all begins

Hello from Preschool!

May was a wonderfully busy month for us at Bethany Lutheran Preschool! We kicked things off with our annual Family Fun Night, a special event to thank all our amazing families for a fantastic school year. The rest of the month flew by with engaging projects, outdoor play, and joyful learning.

One of our highlights was creating heartfelt Mother's and Father's Day gifts, the children had such fun making something special for their parents!

We wrapped up our school year on May 29th with a beautiful graduation ceremony held in the church. It was a touching celebration, and we are so proud of our graduates as they head off to kindergarten. We will miss them dearly!

It's been a great year filled with learning, laughter, and lasting friendships. As we head into summer break, we wish all our families a happy and safe summer.

See you in the fall!

Warmly,

Terri Camilleri
Director, Bethany Lutheran Preschool



THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING IS BACK

Online Giving can be accessed by scanning the QR Code to the right or visiting <https://bethanylutheranchurchcromwell.org/> at any time to set up an automatic donation, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization information is available by contacting Robin in the church office at **860-635-4618**.

The Simply Giving Program

The Simply Giving® Program is designed to help you conveniently make payments to Bethany Lutheran Church. Through the Simply Giving Program, your payments are made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account. You determine the frequency of your automatic payment – weekly, semi-monthly or monthly. Your payment is deposited into the church's bank account on the same day it is withdrawn from your account.



Why Sign Up?

- Convenience – Payment will still be made if you are out of town or on vacation.
- Security – No checks are needed which means no lost or stolen checks.
- Environmentally friendly – Save on checks, envelopes and postage.

How to Sign Up

- Complete the form and return it with your voided check to:

Bethany Lutheran Church
ATTN: Simply Giving
50 Court Street
Cromwell, CT 06416

Forms and questions may be directed to:

Robin Scotti
Bethany Lutheran Church Office Manager
bethanylutheranchurchcromwell@gmail.com

OR

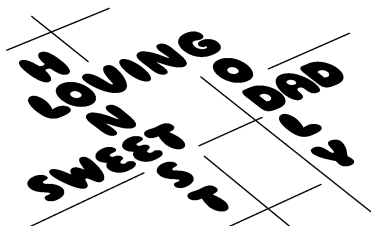
Give Robin a call in the church office, **860-635-4618**, and she can set you up in the Vanco system.



June Kid's Page

A WORD COLLAGE FOR Dad

Create this artwork to express your love and appreciation for your dad or another special man this Father's Day.



What you need:

- A white painting canvas, foam-core board or poster board
- Letter stickers (or foam letters and glue)

What you do:

1. Using the letters, spell out words that describe your dad's character (loving, honest, godly, etc.) and/or his titles (protector, provider, mentor, etc.).
2. Arrange words in a crossword style, both horizontally and vertically.
3. When you have a design you like, stick the words onto the blank canvas or board.
4. Present the gift to your dad or another special man on Father's Day. He'll enjoy this reminder of your love and appreciation.



A FATHER'S LOVE

Psalm 103:13 (NIV) describes what God the Father feels toward us: "As a father has _____ on his children, so the LORD has _____ on those who fear him."

Directions: Match the biblical children to their father, using the clues by the father's name. Then write the corresponding letter on the line to complete the Bible verse above.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| • Shem, Ham and Japheth = M | • Rachel and Leah = S | • Cain, Abel and Seth = O |
| • Solomon = O | • Isaac and Ishmael = P | • Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Dan, Gad, Naphtali, Asher and Dinah = S |
| • Jonathan = I | • John the Baptist = N | |
| • Jesus = C | • Jacob and Esau = A | |

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|-------------------|
| God: | "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." | <u> C </u> |
| Adam: | God gave him another son because his older killed the younger. | <u> </u> |
| Noah: | His sons were blessed and told to multiply and replenish the earth. | <u> </u> |
| Abraham: | God promised he would be a father of many nations. The Jews and Arabs descended from these two sons. | <u> </u> |
| Isaac: | His older son sold his birthright, and his younger son tricked Isaac and received the blessings for the firstborn. | <u> </u> |
| Laban: | He had two daughters; the older was tender-eyed and the younger very beautiful. Both married Jacob. | <u> </u> |
| Jacob: | Two wives and two handmaids gave him 12 sons and a daughter. | <u> </u> |
| Saul: | His son was David's best friend. | <u> </u> |
| David: | He had many children, but one was known for his wisdom, for having many wives and for building God's temple. | <u> </u> |
| Zechariah: | His son, a cousin to Jesus, was born to be a messenger of repentance. | <u> </u> |



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 8 am—Worship w/Holy Communion (C) 9:30 am—Worship with Holy Communion</p>	<p>2 6:30-9:pm— NE Chamber Choir Board Mtg. (SCR)</p>		<p>4 10:30 am—Table Talk at Luther Ridge 6:00 pm—Children & Youth Comm. (SCR) 6-5:30 pm—Ann Kelly Recital (S/FH)</p>			
	→ Preschool Summer Camp, 9—noon ←					
<p>8 9:30 am—Worship with Holy Communion & Baptism 10:30 am—Ice Cream Social</p>	<p>9 7:00 pm— Finance Office Closed</p>	<p>10 5:30 pm— Preschool Board (SCR) 6:30-8:30 pm— Transition Team (SCR)</p>	<p>11 10:30 am—Table Talk at Luther Ridge</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 6 pm—Youth Group, Picnic @ Richheimer's</p>	<p>14 Flag Day</p>
<p>15 Father's Day 9:30 am—Worship with Holy Communion Messenger Articles Due</p>	<p>16 5 pm— Council (Zoom)</p>		<p>18 10:30 am—Table Talk at Luther Ridge</p>	<p>19 1:30 pm—Saints Alive (Picnic, Cromwell Landing)</p>		
		→ Traveler's Babysitting ←				
<p>22 9:30 am—Worship with Holy Communion</p>			<p>25 10:30 am—Table Talk at Luther Ridge</p>	<p>26 6-8 pm— Dinner Church (FH)</p>		
<p>29 9:30 am—Worship with Holy Communion</p>	<p>30</p>					

C—Chapel
BCR—Bell Choir Room
FH—Fellowship Hall
K—Kitchen
L—Lounge
O—Office
PS—Preschool
SCR—Small Community Room
S—Sanctuary

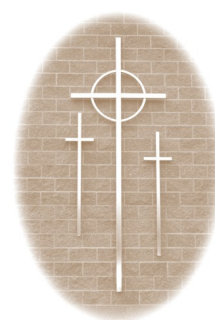
† YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/@BethanyLutheranCromwellCT> †
 † Facebook Link: <https://www.facebook.com/bethanycromwellct/> †
 † Instagram Link: <https://www.instagram.com/bethanychurchcromwellct/> †

The Bethany Messenger

Bethany Lutheran Church ELCA
 50 Court Street
 Cromwell, CT 06416



What's New in New England
New England Synod Assembly 2025
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays: During the Summer:
 9:30 a.m.— and Live on YouTube

[https://www.youtube.com/
 @BethanyLutheranCromwellCT](https://www.youtube.com/@BethanyLutheranCromwellCT)



 **The July/August Messenger**
 Deadline is: **June 15th**

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|--|---|
| Interim Pastor: | Rev. Cheryl Larsen Lawing |
| Pastor Emeritus: | Rev. Lawrence N. Wogman |
| Council President: | Christine Trousdale |
| Council Vice President: | Karol Brzozowski |
| Council Secretary: | Barb Hughes |
| Church Treasurer: | Carol Frago |
| Financial Secretary: | Russell Smith |
| Minister of Music: | Allan R. Nelson |
| Joyful Noise & Ring Joy Director: | Liz Friedmann |
| Sunday School Coordinator: | Claire Pearson |
| Church Council: | Diane Aresco, Mark Aresco, Karol Brzozowski, Carol Frago, Jerry Griscom, Barb Hughes, Noelle Keegan, Kitty Richheimer, Pam Shaw, Russell Smith, Christine Trousdale, Pr. Cheryl Larsen Lawing |
| Office Manager / Preschool Registrar: | Robin Scotti |

Church Office: (860) 635-4618

Fax: (860) 635-4618
(please call first)

Office Hours: Mon., Tue., Thur. — 8 a.m.—3 p.m.
 Wed. & Fri.—8 a.m.—12 p.m.

Preschool: (860) 632-0597

E-Mail Address:
bethanylutheranchurchcromwell@gmail.com

Website: <https://bethanylutheranchurchcromwell.org/>